

AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for managing charging transactions, comprising:
enabling, within a data processing system, a designation, by an owner of a chargeable account number and in association with the chargeable account number, of at least one specified allowed vendor within an allowed vendors listing and a corresponding amount limit chargeable by the specified allowed vendor; and
determining whether the allowed vendors listing specifies that a charge authorization request from all vendors not identified within the allowed vendors listing are to be declined;
determining whether a charging vendor for a current charging transaction is identified on the allowed vendors listing;
if the charging vendor is not on the allowed vendors listing, declining the current charging transaction;
if the charging vendor is on the allowed vendors listing, determining, by the data processing system, whether [[a]] the current charging transaction for a specified amount by [[a]] the charging vendor to the chargeable account number is within the designation.
2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of enabling a designation of at least one specified allowed vendor and a corresponding amount limit chargeable by the specified allowed vendor further comprises:
enabling specification of the corresponding amount limit as a specified amount within a defined duration of time.
3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of enabling a designation of at least one specified allowed vendor and a corresponding amount limit chargeable by the specified allowed vendor further comprises:
enabling specification of a number of times which the at least one specified allowed vendor is permitted to make a charging transaction within the corresponding amount limit on the chargeable account number.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
enabling a designation, by the owner of the chargeable account number and in association with the chargeable account number, of at least one specified excluded vendor.

5-11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended) A system for managing charging transactions, comprising:
means for enabling, within a data processing system, a designation, by an owner of a chargeable account number and in association with the chargeable account number, of at least one specified allowed vendor within an allowed vendors listing and a corresponding amount limit chargeable by the specified allowed vendor; and

means for determining whether the allowed vendors listing specifies that a charge authorization request from all vendors not identified within the allowed vendors listing are to be declined;

means for determining whether a charging vendor for a current charging transaction is identified on the allowed vendors listing;

means for if the charging vendor is not on the allowed vendors listing, declining the current charging transaction;

means for if the charging vendor is on the allowed vendors listing, determining, by the data processing system, whether [[a]] the current charging transaction for a specified amount by [[a]] the charging vendor to the chargeable account number is within the designation.

13. (original) The system of claim 12, wherein the means for enabling a designation of at least one specified allowed vendor and a corresponding amount limit chargeable by the specified allowed vendor further comprises:

means for enabling specification of the corresponding amount limit as a specified amount within a defined duration of time.

14. (original) The system of claim 12, wherein the means for enabling a designation of at least one specified allowed vendor and a corresponding amount limit chargeable by the specified allowed vendor further comprises:

means for enabling specification of a number of times which the at least one specified allowed vendor is permitted to make a charging transaction within the corresponding amount limit on the chargeable account number.

15. (original) The system of claim 12, further comprising:

means for enabling a designation, by the owner of the chargeable account number and in association with the chargeable account number, of at least one specified excluded vendor.

16-22. (canceled)

23. (currently amended) A computer program product within a computer usable medium for managing charging transactions, comprising:

instructions for enabling, within a data processing system, a designation, by an owner of a chargeable account number and in association with the chargeable account number, of at least one specified allowed vendor and a corresponding amount limit chargeable by the specified allowed vendor within an allowed vendors listing; and

instructions for determining whether the allowed vendors listing specifies that a charge authorization request from all vendors not identified within the allowed vendors listing are to be declined;

instructions for determining whether a charging vendor for a current charging transaction is identified on the allowed vendors listing;

instructions for if the charging vendor is not on the allowed vendors listing, declining the current charging transaction;

instructions for if the charging vendor is on the allowed vendors listing, determining, by the data processing system, whether [[a]] the current charging transaction for a specified amount by [[a]] the charging vendor to the chargeable account number is within the designation.

24. (original) The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the instructions for enabling a designation of at least one specified allowed vendor and a corresponding amount limit chargeable by the specified allowed vendor further comprise:

instructions for enabling specification of the corresponding amount limit as a specified amount within a defined duration of time.

25. (original) The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the instructions for enabling a designation of at least one specified allowed vendor and a corresponding amount limit chargeable by the specified allowed vendor further comprise:

instructions for enabling specification of a number of times which the at least one specified allowed vendor is permitted to make a charging transaction within the corresponding amount limit on the chargeable account number.

26. (original) The computer program product of claim 23, further comprising:

instructions for enabling a designation, by the owner of the chargeable account number and in association with the chargeable account number, of at least one specified excluded vendor.

27-33. (canceled)